Drive-in for
COFFEE
8 AM - 11 AM & 5 PM - 10 PM
HOTEL
SIDDHARTA
NAZARABAD, MYSURU PH: 2522999

STAR OF MYSORE

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MYSURU Sunday 30th July 2023
City Offices: K.R. Circle Ph: 2431774
Devaraja Urs Road Ph: 2428695
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High-end car thief arrested

Police recover three SUVs; accused also burgled gold from houses

Value of stolen properties Rs. 1 crore; GPS technology helps arrest

The CCTV grab of the car thief captured in the case of former Minister M. Shivanna's vehicle theft.

Mysuru, July 30 (RK&BCT)- The V.V. Puram Police successfully cracked three high-end car theft cases and have arrested a notorious thief, a lone operator, from Bengaluru. All the cars have been recovered from the parties to whom he had sold and are at present in the V.V. Puram Police Station.

Apart from being a professional car thief, the accused also used to burgle houses and the total value of the stolen assets that have been seized by the Police include vehicles, gold and watches amounting to Rs. 1 crore. The identity of the thief has been protected by the Police and the arrest was made yesterday, July 29, Police sources told *Star of Mysore*.

The car theft cases were registered in V.V. Puram and Vijayanagar Police Stations and special teams had been formed and the V.V. Puram team was successful in arresting the culprit, said Police sources.

On July 25, this man had stolen a Mahindra XUV700 (KA-09-MJ-2677) which was parked in front of a house on the 5th Main Road in Yadavagiri. The SUV belonged to B. Satish Rao, an Accountant. Satish Rao had parked his vehicle in front of his house and theft came to light the next day morning when Satish Rao found the SUV missing.

The case was registered at V.V. Puram Police Station while tracking the case, the Police teams were informed by Satish Rao that his SUV was GPS-enabled and its movements can be tracked. Giving the responsibility of tracking the GPS to the IT wing, a Police team began chasing the vehicle based on the location inputs.

Following the accused, the Police realised that the criminal was not aware of the GPS system. However, the Police kept a low profile so that not to arouse suspicion. Based on the IT wing's inputs, the Police team zeroed in on the vehicle at a location in Bengaluru and pounced on the thief.

Kote M. Shivanna's vehicle

Initial investigation has revealed that the thief used to operate alone and he has stolen two more cars. He had stolen a Multi-Utility Vehicle (MUV) belonging to former Minister Kote M. Shivanna parked near his house on 80 feet road in Vijayanagar Third Stage and a Fortuner car owned by a hotelier.

(See HIGH-END CAR THIEF on page 7)

STAR OF MYSORE

"We believe comment is free, but facts are sacred."

Editor: M. GOVINDE GOWDA, M.A.

Mysuru, Sunday 30th July 2023

MPVL bags Best Export Award

Mysuru, July 30 (BS)- The city-based Mysore Paints and Varnish Ltd. (MPVL), a Government of Karnataka undertaking, has bagged the 'State Best Export Award' given by the State Government.

Chief Minister Siddharamaiah, Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar and Large and Medium Scale Industries Minister M.B. Patil presented the award to MPVL at a ceremony organised by Visvesvaraya Trade Promotion Centre in Bengaluru recently.

Former Managing Director of MPVL G. Kumaraswamy, acting MD C. Harakumar and Manager (Marketing) K.A. Ashwath Appanna received the award, according to a press release from MPVL.

EDITOR'S BOTTOMLINE

When I was a child, I heard about questions that Indians were asked when they went to foreign countries. In those days, foreign travel was a distant prospect, literally and metaphorically, for the majority of Indians. The few who did go abroad did so for higher studies, or in official capacity, or to do business. India had little exposure to the outside world, as had the outside world to India.

India was imagined as a mysterious realm of snake charmers and sadhus, maharajas and marvels. Did tigers roam the streets of Indian towns? Was it true children went to school (by the way, were there any schools?) on the backs of elephants? Did people live in trees? These queries prompted amused puzzlement as well as a search for reasons behind such misconceptions.

Why were foreigners so ignorant about India? The reason was that, despite India's size, and its civilisational heritage of thousands of years, and the fact it was the world's most populous democracy, India was of little importance to the world.

The best antidote to ignorance being ingenuity, the answers to oft-asked questions called for creative thinking. Yes, tigers did have free recourse to the streets, but people were safe by using the zebras provided for safe navigation of thoroughfares. And how did people gain access to their tree homes? Why, by using elevators, of course.

Today, India presents a very different kettle of fish and provokes very different questions.

Why is it that despite India being billed as the fastest growing major economy, so many of its citizens desperately want to get out that they resort to illegal, often dangerous, measures to do so?

How is it that notwithstanding India's vaunted tradition of Gandhian ahimsa, it is beset by recurring episodes of mass violence, as witnessed in Manipur?

When India bills itself as the largest democracy, why is its Opposition intent on opposing itself rather than uniting to oppose Government?

Answers to such questions could lead to a true discovery of India, not only by outsiders but, more importantly, by ourselves.

— Jug Suraiya in The Times of India

NEWS SPARKLERS

Three whales caught jumping in unison

Massachusetts : A family fishing off the coast of Massachusetts captured video of the rare moment three humpback whales jumped out of the water in unison.

Robert Addie said he was fishing with his daughters and son-in-law near Provincetown when he started recording video of some nearby whales. Addie's footage captured the moment three of the whales breached at the same time, followed by a nearby juvenile a few moments later.

"I've been on the water a long time. I've worked sword and tuna out of Gloucester. I worked fishing in Alaska as a young man and I've seen a lot of whales. I'll tell you, I've never seen a triple in sync like that."

Philip Hamilton, senior scientist at the New England Aquarium, said whales have been known to breach in unison, but three at the same time is a "bit rarer" to see.

Wins $50,000 lottery during her vacation

Maryland : The 58-year-old suburban Cleveland woman told Maryland Lottery officials she and her husband were on vacation in Ocean City when the weather complicated their plans for the day. "We're lottery fans back home," the vacationer recalled. "We were driving around since it was raining and my husband suggested that we get a few tickets."

The purchases at 7-Eleven earned the pair a free ticket for the Pick 5 drawing as part of Lottery Week promotions.

"We were walking away from the counter when the cashier called us back," the woman said. "My husband stuck it in his pocket. We didn't think a thing about it." The couple were filling their car with gas for their trip home the next day when they decided to check their tickets. They discovered they had won $50,000 jackpot in July 19 midday Pick 5 drawing.

HEALTH CAPSULE

Myth: Hard water causes stones

Fact: Drinking Hard water will not increase the risk of stones. Adequate hydration will reduce the risk of stone formation.

By Dr. THIMMAIAH K A - Consultant – Urology
Manipal Hospital, Mysore

manipalhospitals
LIFE'S ON

** Health Capsule is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature*

KSTRI conducts health check-up camp at Ashram School

Mysuru, July 30 (MTY&DM)- As part of ensuring the health of tribal children, the city-based Karnataka State Tribal Research Institute (KSTRI) conducted a health screening camp for students of Hunsur taluk's Nellurpala Ashram School in the school premises recently.

The camp was conducted by the KSRTI in association with JSS Academy of Higher Education (JSS AHER) and All India Institute of Speech and Hearing (AIISH), Mysuru.

Speaking on the occasion, KSTRI Director Dr. L. Srinivas said that the health screening camp was held in order to ensure the health and well-being of tribal children studying in the Ashram School. Pointing out that measures have been taken for conducting similar health screening and treatment camps in all Ashram Schools of the State, he said that steps are also being taken for delivery of benefits under various Government schemes for inhabitants of tribal hamlets (haadis). This apart, campaigns are also being conducted for educating the tribals on Forest Act, maintenance of health and hygiene, school enrolment etc., he added.

A team of over 30 specialist doctors checked the health of over 200 children from Jenukuruba, Dongri, Hakkipikki, Soliga and other tribal communities for various ailments, illness and malnutrition. Free medicines were distributed to those who were prescribed.

KSTRI Deputy Director B.S. Prabha Urs, Taluk Welfare Officer H.C. Basavaraju, M. Narayanaswamy, Head Master Chetan Kumar, Community Health Officer Dr. Ravish, B. Gani, JSS Dental College faculty Dr. Indira and Dr. Sushma, Paediatricians Dr. Prashanth, Dr. Chetak and Dr. Sunitha Singh, AIISH faculty Dr. Arunraj, Dr. Mahadevappa, Nagaraj and others were present.

REALLY...?

- *Leonardo da Vinci made the first real studies of flight in the 1480's. He had over 100 drawings that illustrated his theories on flight.*
- *The Ornithopter flying machine was never actually created. It was a design that Leonardo da Vinci created to show how man could fly. The modern day helicopter is based on this concept.*

LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

Q: How did Benjamin Franklin feel when he discovered electricity?
A: Shocked!

TODAY'S CURRENCY RATE

1 US Dollar	= Rs. 82.26
1 UK Pound	= Rs. 105.66
1 UAE Dirham	= Rs. 22.39
1 Euro	= Rs. 90.72

VOICE OF THE READER

Traffic block by zig-zag barricades

Sir,

Since the time four zig-zag barricades were placed on either side in front of Canara Bank, Temple Road, Jayalakshmipuram, motorists are facing undue hardships. Considering the width of this road, four zig-zag barricades can only create traffic hurdles than resolving it.

Every time when a bus or other heavy vehicle moves through these barricades, traffic is blocked for some time, inviting accidents. Instead of four barricades, the Traffic Police can have either two barricades or remove all the four barricades.

Also by placing the barricades at the entrance of Canara Bank, available parking space for Canara Bank customers got curtailed. Canara Bank is one of the oldest banks in this locality frequented by senior citizens. By curtailing the available parking space by placing the barricades in front of the Bank, Police have done a disservice to the senior citizens.

On enquiry with the concerned Police Station, I was informed that these barricades were placed to avoid the accidents on this stretch of the road.

Accidents — if at all any — are caused by the fast moving vehicles entering the Temple road from the intersecting roads on either side of Temple road. Wise mode to resolve this issue would be to plan scientific humps on the side roads than blocking free movement of vehicles on Temple road.

—K. Chandrahas
Mysuru
26.7.2023

Hostel admissions

Mysuru, July 30 (SSM)- The **Backward Classes Welfare Department (BCWD), Mysuru district,** has invited online applications for admission to its post-matric hostels from boys and girls studying regular degree courses for the year 2023-24.

Students belonging to Category-1, 2A, 2B, 3A, 3B, Scheduled Caste (SC)/ Scheduled Tribe (ST) and other communities are eligible to apply. Eligible candidates must apply online by logging on to ***https://bcwd.karnataka.gov.in/*** before Aug. 16.

For details, candidates may send e-mail to: ***bcwd.hostels@karnataka.gov.in*** or call Mob: 80503-70005, according to a press release from the Mysuru District BCWD Welfare Officer.

The **Social Welfare Department, Mysuru district,** has also invited online applications for admission to its post-matric hostels from boys and girls studying regular degree courses for the year 2023-24.

Students belonging to Category-1, 2A, 2B, 3A, 3B, Scheduled Caste (SC)/ Scheduled Tribe (ST) and other communities are eligible to apply.

Eligible candidates must apply online by logging on to ***https://sw.kar.nic.in/index.aspx*** before Aug. 16.

For details, candidates may visit the Department Office at the Dr. Babu Jagjivan Ram Bhavan in city or call Ph: 0821-2520910, according to a press release from the Department Welfare Officer.

Obituary

Mysuru, July 30- Khyrunnissa Saheba (82), wife of late Khader Abdul Rasheed of Gargeshwari, passed away yesterday in Mysuru at her son-in-law Advocate Syed Shafi Ahmed's residence in Kuvempunagar.

Later the body was shifted to her native Gargeshwari.

She is survived by one son, two daughters — Almas Banu, Notary & Advocate and Sabiha Banu, former Kannada News Reader, Doordarshan, Bengaluru — and a host of friends and relatives. Namaz-e-Janaza was offered today at Jamia Masjid, Gargeshwari, followed by burial at Muslim Burial Grounds in Gargeshwari.

U-21 Women's World Snooker Championship, Riyadh

15-year-old Natasha Chethan secures bronze medal

Mysuru, July 30 (BCT)- Natasha Chethan from Bengaluru, who has her roots in Mysuru, has secured bronze in this year's U-21 Women's World Snooker Championship held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, losing out to eventual winner Keerthana Pandian 3-1.

Natasha lost to Keerthana in the last-four stage. Natasha also won the trophy for the highest break in girls scoring both the first and second-highest breaks.

The World Under-21 Snooker Championship 2023 for men and women hosted by the Saudi Arabian Billiard and Snooker Federation in Riyadh, concluded recently. The game took place over a period of 10 days, in which more than 100 male and female players, representing 15 national teams, participated.

The closing ceremony was attended by the President of the International Billiards and Snooker Federation (IBSF), Mubarak Al-Khayarin, the President of the Saudi Arabian Billiard and Snooker Federation Dr. Nasser Al-Shammari and members of the participating teams.

At 15 years of age, Natasha has been competing and winning in the U-21 categories.

Notably, at The Crucible this year, Natasha was the only one among girls from India with participants from other countries who were listed as the 'Class of 2023'. She also won the Asia-Pacific Women's Challenge Cup.

A rare and commendable feat as the last such list made and published at The Crucible was in 1992, featuring Ronnie O Sullivan, Mark Williams and John Higgins, all of whom won a combined total of over a hundred ranking titles.

Natasha is the daughter of Leena Chethan and H.S. Chethan of Sakleshpur. Her grandparents Tara Chand Gupta and Mamta Gupta are residents of Vijayanagar 1st Stage in Mysuru.

Leena is an art advisor who studied in Mysuru at Nirmala Convent, Mahajana College and did her MBA at the University of Mysore.

Natasha Chethan

Snooker has changed a lot these days with young champions from India like Natasha regularly winning tournaments and topping the world rankings. The game's future looks bright with many youngsters making a mark in the world snooker scene.

According to the trainers and the players, the game in India is still in its nascent stage and needs corporate sponsors who come forward to sponsor other games, such as cricket. With encouragement and sponsorships, snooker can also become a sport where players can get laurels for India.

To Our Readers

The 2024 Parliamentary election is going to be the most decisive one in this 75th year of our independence. The battle lines are drawn between the two, already tested, political groups — UPA (now I.N.D.I.A) and NDA. In this political scenario, what would you foresee for the future of India if I.N.D.I.A wins or if NDA wins?

Readers are invited to write about it in about 1,200 words and e-mail it to ***voice@starofmysore.com*** *before 15th August, 2023. Those found good will be published in* ***Star of Mysore*** *and the writer will get an award of Rs. 2,000. The decision of the Editor is final.*—**Ed**

MYSORE RACE CLUB CHARITABLE TRUST
P.B.NO.11, Race Course Road, Mysore-570 010
Tel: 2521675 | Email : secretary@mysoreraceclub.com

Mysore Race Club (MRC) Eye Hospital
REQUIRES

1. **General Ophthalmologists:** [Full Time / Part Time] [Freshly Graduated MS/DNB/DO Candidates may also be considered]
2. **Pediatric Ophthalmologist:** [Part Time]
3. **Cornea Specialist:** [Part Time] Doctors with fellowship in Cornea & Pediatric ophthalmology from reputed institutions, with surgical experience in SICS and Phacoemulsification preferred.
4. **Optometrist:** Having expertise in various investigative modalities in ophthalmology, such as OCT, HFA, A-Scan, and keratometry.
5. **Camp Coordinator Cum Ambulance Driver :** The incumbent must be capable of coordinating with the organizers for conducting Eye camps and he should have a valid driving license with relevant experience.

Candidates who are interested may submit their detailed resumes, along with their experience and salary expectations, to administrator@mrceyehospital.in within a period of 07 days.

Sd/- Secretary & CEO,
MRC Charitable Trust

NEWS BRIEFS

PG courses

Admissions to PG courses at various Departments of the University of Mysore (UoM), Constituent Colleges and Affiliated Colleges of UoM will be conducted through a common entrance exam for the year 2023-24. Eligible candidates may submit their applications for the entrance exam online by logging on to ***https://uompgadmissions.com/*** before Aug. 1.

Admissions for Navodaya Vidyalaya

Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya at DMG Halli in Mysuru taluk has invited applications from interested students for the admission to sixth standard for the year 2023-24. The entrance exam for the admissions will be held on January 20, 2024. Interested eligible candidates may submit their application forms by logging on to ***www.navodaya.gov.in*** before Aug. 10. [Ph: 0821-2970040]

Prohibitory orders

With the Karnataka School Examination and Assessment Board conducting the Computer Education Exams at DIET, Vasantha Mahal, Nazarbad, in city from July 31 to Aug. 4, the City Police have clamped prohibitory orders in 200-mts radius around the centre from 6 am to 6 pm on all days of the exam. Accordingly, no unauthorised person will be allowed entry to the exam centre and carrying of objectionable articles in the vicinity of the centre is barred. Also, all photocopy shops in the vicinity of the centre have been ordered to shut down on the exam days, according to a press release from the Office of the City Police Commissioner.

WATER LEVEL

KRS DAM

Maximum	:	124.80	feet
Today	:	112.60	feet
Yesterday	:	112.00	feet
Inflow	:	10,715	cusecs
Outflow	:	3,159	cusecs

KABINI DAM

Maximum	:	2,284.00	feet
Today	:	2283.15	feet
Inflow	:	6,126	cusecs
Outflow	:	3,500	cusecs

HARANGI DAM

Maximum	:	2,859.00	feet
Today	:	2,857.08	feet
Inflow	:	6,529	cusecs
Outflow	:	4,266	cusecs

Four women meet watery grave as car falls into VC Canal

Three of deceased from Goravanahalli in T. Narasipur taluk, another from Gamanahalli in Srirangapatna taluk; youth driving car miraculously survives

Mysuru, July 30 (Kumar& BS)- Close on the heels of a man meeting his watery grave at Visvesvaraya Canal (VC Canal) in Mandya district after his car plunged into the canal recently, four women, including a woman and her daughter, met a similar end at Gamanahalli near Arakere in Srirangapatna taluk in Mandya last night.

The deceased are identified as Rekha (35), wife of C. Basavaraju and her daughter Sanjana (18), Mamatha (40), wife of Mallesh from Goravanahalli, T. Narasipur taluk, Mysuru district and their relative Mahadevamma (50) of Gamanahalli in Mandya district.

While 25-year-old Manoj, son of the deceased Mamatha, who was driving the car, miraculously survived in the incident. He has been admitted at Mandya Institute of Medical Sciences (MIMS) Hospital.

The tragedy struck when the four were travelling to their relative's house at Doddamulagudu where they had planned to stay overnight, to attend the religious rituals at Kalabhyraveshwara Temple at Adhichunchanagiri in Nagamangala taluk in Mandya today early morning.

The three among the deceased, who started in a car from Goravanahalli, had picked up Mahadevamma from Gamanahalli who too met the tragic end in the accident. Manoj, who was at the wheels, lost control while negotiating a curve before veering off the road and plunging into the canal after hitting the metal crash barrier at Gamanahalli that shares the border with T. Narasipur taluk.

The accident victims.

It is said that, Manoj who was speedily driving the car in the narrow road, turned the steering towards his left, only to plough the vehicle directly into the canal. According to another version, Manoj was blinded by the headlight of a vehicle coming from the opposite direction that led to the accident.

Learning about the incident, both T. Narasipur and Arakere Police personnel rushed to the spot and fished out the bodies with the help of expert divers.

Arakere Police have registered a case in this regard.

District Minister visits MIMS

Social Welfare Minister Dr. H.C. Mahadevappa, who is also the Mysuru District in-Charge Minister and represents T. Narasipur Constituency in the Assembly, visited MIMS Hospital this morning and consoled the grieving family members.

Speaking to media persons, Mahadevappa said: "Following the incident, Mandya District Minister N. Chaluvarayaswamy, MLAs A.B. Rameshbabu Bandisiddegowda (Srirangapatna) and Ganiga Ravi (Mandya) spoke to the Chief Minister.

The Chief Minister directed the District Administration of Mandya to announce ex-gratia of Rs. 2 lakh to the next of kin of each of the deceased persons."

Chaluvarayaswamy also gave Rs. 50,000 as compensation to the bereaved families from his packet.

Special Police patrolling to curb crimes

Mysuru, July 30 (MK&BS)- The District Police, who have taken a step towards curbing criminal activities, have launched a special patrolling on foot in morning and evening hours in respective Police Stations limits, to hear the grievances from public.

The Police will be visiting prominent roads, school and college campuses, hospitals, bus stands, villages and other public places, as part of the new initiative.

This follows the directions from higher ups of the Police Department to rein in criminal activities and create a secured feeling in the mind of the people.

Woman loses Rs. 6.9 lakh to online fraud

Mysuru, July 30 (BS)- A woman was cheated of Rs. 6.9 lakh under the pretext of paying towards the likes for YouTube videos and a case has been registered in this regard at Cyber, Economic and Narcotics (CEN) Crime Police Station in the city.

The victim, wife of Sumanth of Hebbal 2nd Stage in the city, received a message on her cell phone, offering to pay Rs. 50 for liking a video on YouTube. Accordingly she liked six videos and received Rs. 300 in her account. The fraudster later offered lucrative returns of Rs. 3,900 for investing Rs. 3,000. When she even got Rs. 3,900 credited to her account, the fraudster gradually collected Rs. 6.9 lakh from her, only to cheat her later.

Coin trading racket

In another case, U. Kiran, 33 years, resident of J.P. Nagar in the city, has lost Rs. 13.94 lakh to online coin trading racket.

Kiran received a call from a number 1203205862 and the caller lured him with attractive returns for online coin trading. He created an account in the name of Kiran and got Rs. 13,94,663 invested in the trading to cheat him later. City CEN Crime Police have registered the case.

CM Siddharamaiah takes part in son's death anniversary

Mysuru, July 30 (MTY&DM)- After inspecting the Mysuru-Bengaluru Expressway, Chief Minister Siddharamaiah yesterday arrived in the city later in the afternoon to a rousing welcome by Congress party workers at the Toll Gate on Mysuru-Bengaluru Road.

Hundreds of party workers had gathered at the Toll Gate anticipating the arrival of Siddharamaiah and as soon as his car arrived at the spot, the workers stepped on to the road.

Seeing the crowd on the road, Siddu asked his car driver to stop, when the crowd rushed to the car to welcome him by garlanding. The Police had a tough time in controlling the crowd. The CM who stopped at the Toll Gate for about 5 minutes, later resumed his journey.

Chamaraja MLA K. Harishgowda, former Zilla Panchayat (ZP) President K. Marigowda, City Congress President R. Murthy, District President Dr. B.J. Vijaykumar, leaders Nandeesh Preetam, Ashok and others were present.

CM takes part in his son's death anniversary

Chief Minister Siddharamaiah attended the rituals of the death anniversary of his elder son Rakesh Siddharamaiah at the family's farmland at T. Katur village in the taluk.

Rakesh passed away on July 29, 2016 and his last rites were conducted at T. Katur farmland. Since then, Siddharamaiah has been visiting the farmland for taking part in the death anniversary rituals.

On Saturday, Siddu, along with his wife Parvati, younger son Dr. Yathindra Siddharamaiah, daughter-in-law Smitha Rakesh, grandson Dhavan Rakesh, Granddaughter Tanmayi Rakesh, brother Siddegowda and other family members, performed puja at Rakesh Memorial.

District Minister Dr. H.C. Mahadevappa, the CM's Joint Secretary M. Ramaiah, MLC Dr. D. Thimmaiah, K.R. Nagar MLA D. Ravishankar, former MLA M.K. Somashekar, leaders K. Marigowda, C. Basavegowda, Dr. Shushruth, Rakesh Papanna, Sudha Mahadevaiah, Basavaraj and others were present.

Later, the CM received inputs from Deputy Commissioner (DC) Dr. K.V. Rajendra, ZP CEO K.M. Gayatri, SP Seema Latkar, City Police Commissioner B. Ramesh and other officials on the progress of ongoing works and projects in the district.

Thereafter, the CM travelled to Bengaluru by road later in the evening, with no Zero Traffic in place all along the route.

MCC Zone-1 office inaugurated

Mysuru, July 30 (RK&DM)- KR MLA T.S. Srivatsa and Mayor Shivakumar inaugurated the new MCC Zone-1 office building located at 5th Cross, Uttaradi Mutt Road, K.R. Mohalla here yesterday.

Deputy Mayor Dr. G. Roopa, MCC Commissioner Ashaad-Ur-Rahman Shariff, Corporators B.V. Manjunath, Shantakumari, Shobha Sunil, M.V. Ramprasad, Chayadevi and Soumya Umesh, MCC Zonal Officers Manjunath Reddy and Satyamurthy, Development Officer Shushrutha and others were present.

The building has been built at a cost of Rs. 3 crore. The building features vehicle parking at the Ground Floor, Engineering, Revenue, Birth and Death Registration, Electricity Billing Sections and KarnatakaOne Centre on the First and Second Floors.

The MCC Zone-1 office will start functioning from the new building by the second week of August. The old office, that was housed in an old building in the park adjacent to Akkana Balaga School in Agrahara, was too congested and lacked infrastructure, besides causing inconvenience to the public and staff.

District Minister absent

District Minister Dr. H.C. Mahadevappa, who was supposed to inaugurate the new building, was absent. Though the inauguration was scheduled to take place at 11 am, the District Minister failed to turn up on time, though the other guests, Mayor Shivakumar, Deputy Mayor Dr. G. Roopa, MP Pratap Simha, MLAs T.S. Srivatsa, K. Harishgowda and Tanveer Sait, MLC C.N. Manjegowda, had arrived on time.

After waiting for more than an hour for the District Minister, the guests left the place. Later at 1 pm, the MCC Commissioner Shariff contacted the District Minister, when he told that he cannot come due to his other preoccupations, following which KR MLA T.S. Srivatsa and Mayor Shivakumar, who remained at the spot, inaugurated the new building in the presence of Deputy Mayor Dr. G. Roopa, several Corporators and MCC officials.

Meanwhile, it is learnt that the District Minister could not attend the building inauguration as he took part in an Agriculture Department programme at Jaladarshini Guest House and had to go to receive the Chief Minister upon his arrival in the city.

I-Day: Promote usage of eco-friendly flags

DC holds preliminary meeting in city

Mysuru, July 30 (DM)- Deputy Commissioner (DC) Dr. K.V. Rajendra has called upon officials to hold all Independence Day related programmes in an organised manner.

He was speaking after chairing an Independence Day preliminary meeting at his office here on Wednesday.

Calling upon the officials to make all necessary arrangements for flag hoisting on I-Day (Aug. 15), he directed them to promote usage of eco-friendly flags and ban plastic flags.

Instructing the officials to organise programmes with the involvement of freedom fighters and to honour family members of freedom fighters, the DC asked the DDPI and Kannada and Culture Department officials to host cultural programmes with the participation of school children.

He also directed the Police to provide tight security at I-Day parade venue and at other venues where cultural programmes will take place and to ensure that all the programmes go on smoothly at all venues.

Additional DC Kavitha Rajaram, Additional SP B.N. Nandini, other officials and leaders of various organisations attended the meeting.

India's rotating presidency of G20 in 2023

Three-day Think 20 Summit in Mysuru from tomorrow

Mysuru, July 30 (BLU&BCT)- Delegates from as many as 43 nations, including the G20 members, will take part in the Think 20 Summit in Mysuru city from tomorrow (July 31) to Aug. 2. Delegates have started arriving in batches to the city this morning from Hampi, where the Culture Working Group Meeting was held.

The 2023 G20 summit would be hosted in New Delhi in September this year. The annual rotating presidency of G20 is held by India in 2023. The theme of India's G20 Presidency- is 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' or 'One Earth, One Family, One Future'. The Third G20 Culture Working Group and the Third G20 Sherpa meetings were held in Hampi from July 9 to 16.

In Mysuru city, the three-day meet will be held at Radisson Blu Plaza Hotel on M.G. Road while the accommodation for the delegates have been booked at Hotel Grand Mercure at Moulana Abul Kalam Circle (Highway Circle).

Over 70 rooms have been booked at Grand Mercure and the delegates will head to Radisson Blu for deliberations.

Police teams are being briefed in front of Hotel Grand Mercure near Moulana Abul Kalam Circle (Highway Circle) in the city this morning ahead of Think 20 Summit. Picture right shows a delegate arriving at the hotel where the accommodation has been booked.

Elaborate security and transport arrangements have been made for the delegates. After the deliberations, the delegates will visit the places of tourist interest in Mysuru. On July 31, tomorrow, they will visit Mysore Palace and on Aug. 1, the delegates will visit the Krishna Raja Sagar Dam and the scenic spots in Srirangapatna and on Aug. 2, they will visit Somnathpur.

The Think 20 Summit is the milestone event of G20 India. It will be a gathering of distinguished Task Force members and policy experts from around the world.

It provides an opportunity to collectively showcase ideas and insights on the priorities of India's G20 Presidency including issues such as macro economics and trade, digital transformation, lifestyle for environment, green transition, global financial order, accelerating Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and reforming multilateralism.

During the Summit, the delegates will have the privilege of releasing the final Think 20 Summit communique and Task Force statements, which will encapsulate the key recommendations and policy proposals developed by the Task Forces — through a year-long process — for the G20 Leaders' Communique.

In Karnataka, G20 meetings will be held in Bengaluru, Mysuru and Hampi spread over the year. This will give a chance for the visitors to visit the various historical and heritage attractions of the state. These meetings will also provide an opportunity for visitors to witness India's economic growth and successes along with rich experience in India's cultural diversity.

Karnataka is poised to get more high-tech cities in the near future, including Mysuru, Hubbali, Mangaluru, Dharwad, central Karnataka and one near Bengaluru, along with a dedicated start-up park.

2022 tiger census report released

Madhya Pradesh tops with 785, Karnataka second with 563

New Delhi, July 30 (Agencies)- India's tiger population reached 3,682 in 2022, a significant increase from 2,967 in 2018, according to the report "Status of Tigers: Co-predators and Prey in India-2022," released yesterday as part of the International Tiger Day celebrations.

The report was jointly released by the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) and the Wildlife Institute of India. This remarkable growth makes India the proud home to approximately 75 percent of the world's tiger population.

This latest figure marks an upward revision from April this year when the Wildlife Institute of India, responsible for coordinating the quadrennial tiger census, estimated a minimum of 3,167 tigers. The new data also surpasses the 3,167 tigers announced by PM Narendra Modi in Mysuru on April 9 during the celebration of 50 years of Project Tiger, a globally acclaimed conservation effort.

Tourists on safari spot tigers at Dhammanakatte in Antharasanthe Forest Zone at Nagarahole Reserve Forest in this file photo.

The revised figures stem from meticulous analyses of census data collected during the fifth cycle of estimation conducted in 2022, further solidifying India's position as a key tiger habitat.

This impressive growth represents a significant achievement over the past decade; in 2014, there were 2,226 tigers reported, a notable rise from 1,706 in 2010. The report reveals that in 2022, the highest number of tigers, 785, was reported in Madhya Pradesh, followed by Karnataka (563), Uttarakhand (560) and Maharashtra (444).

It is noteworthy that nearly a quarter of the tigers were reportedly found outside protected areas, indicating the need for enhanced protection measures, habitat restoration, ungulate augmentation, and subsequent tiger reintroduction in about 35 percent of India's 53 tiger reserves, as highlighted by the Union Environment Ministry.

Madhya Pradesh stands out as a success story, with its forests witnessing an increase of 259 tigers in just four years, according to the survey. The State had faced a decline in tiger population from its number one position in 2006 to 2010 but reclaimed the top spot in 2018.

Meanwhile, Karnataka's tiger numbers have shown fluctuations over the years, securing the first position in 2014 and now standing at second place in 2022.

The report also provides a breakdown of tiger numbers within the tiger reserve, with Corbett (260), Bandipur (150), Nagarahole (141), Bandhavgarh (135), Dudhwa (135), Mudumalai (114), Kanha (105), Kaziranga (104), Sundarbans (100), Tadoba (97), Sathyamangalam (85) and Pench-MP (77) being the top reserves in terms of tiger population.

Explaining the variation in numbers from the April announcement, Wildlife Institute of India Director V.K. Tiwari stated, "3,167 is the minimum count based on photographs of tigers, while 3,682 is the population estimate arrived at through extrapolation of all data, including pictures, pug marks, and other sign indicators like scat."

MCC closes public road, builds market

Former Mayor Sandesh Swamy inspects the disputed spot at Satya Nagar; road between dalits burial ground and P&T Quarters shut

Mysuru, July 30 (SBD&BS)- A public road in the city has been converted into a market and Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) itself is the alleged culprit.

The road between dalits burial ground and P&T Quarters in Ward-14 (Satya Nagar) of MCC has been converted into the market, with MCC building shed type shelters for the benefit of street vendors, which has not gone down well with the public.

Following the information from locals, former Mayor S. Satish (Sandesh Swamy) visited the spot along with several leaders and inspected the market in question. The locals complained that despite their plea on building the market by closing down the road, MCC Officials turned deaf ears and have continued with the works.

Swamy said: "Supreme Court order prohibits any construction activities on roads and footpaths, on the basis of which several religious structures were also cleared in the city. While the rules are being followed across the country, it is thrown into the wind by MCC itself violating the SC order in a nonchalant manner, which is highly condemnable."

The road has been closed and the market with 70 stalls are built at an estimated cost of Rs. 90 lakh. The road, which existed for seven to eight decades, is also identified as road in Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP). Without taking this into cognisance, the public road has been misused for another purpose, said Swamy.

"When the locals brought to my notice that, following the closure of the road with the market structure coming up, the people have lost easy access between the burial ground junction and P&T Quarters, I immediately conveyed it to MCC Officers. I had also requested not to construct the market in violation of rules. But no action was taken in this regard," he added.

"If the MCC Officers behave like 'fence eating the crop', it will give a license for others to usurp the lands of others. Either the Deputy Commissioner or Police Commissioner should have acted on this, as per Road Safety Act, but even they have chosen to remain silent. If no action is taken in public interest, I will wage a legal battle on behalf of the people," said Swamy.

BJP leaders Bhanuprakash, Muralidhar, Narasimha Murthy, Velu and others were present during the occasion.

Memorandum to DC, MCC Commissioner

A memorandum has been submitted to Deputy Commissioner (DC) and Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) Commissioner alleging that, succumbing to somebody's pressure, MCC Officers have built the market. Several structures have been already cleared from the footpaths complying with the Court order. Accordingly, inspection should be conducted and structures be removed from public roads for the convenience of general public. Action should also be taken against MCC Officers for unauthorised building of the structure and those related to the illegality.

Gen. K.S. Thimmaiah cash prize for children of Ex-Servicemen

Mysuru, July 30 (SSM)- Department of Sainik Welfare and Resettlement has invited applications from meritorious children of Karnataka domiciled Ex-Servicemen who have secured highest marks in SSLC and PUC Exam to avail Gen. K.S. Thimayya Cash Prize.

Eligible candidates may avail applications from the Department Office and may submit the filled-in forms before Oct. 30. For details, call Ph: 08212-2425240, according to a press release from the Department Deputy Director.

High-end car thief arrested

(Continued from page 1)

The Toyota Innova Crysta (KA-09-ME-6996) vehicle of Shivanna was stolen at 1 am on June 5 and the CCTV footage captured his visuals. The thief gained entry to the house through the back door and took the car key from the hall.

Before driving away with the car, he put the idol of Ganapathi and some documents kept in the vehicle in a cover and left it behind at the place where the vehicle was parked.

Shivanna's driver had handed over the key to Shivanna at around 8 pm on that day after parking the vehicle. It was only after seeing the footage of the CCTV camera, it came to light that the thief had jumped over the compound wall of the house before committing the theft.

Hotel owner's SUV

A month before Shivanna's car was stolen, the same thief had taken away the Toyota Fortuner car owned by K.R. Santhosh, the proprietor of Silver Oak Hotel in Vijayanagar Third Stage.

Santhosh had parked his SUV (KA-09-MD-9977) in front of his house on May 12 night, a day before the counting for the Karnataka Assembly elections. The car was at the usual parking spot till 12 am and Santhosh had seen it. But it was missing the next morning. Vijayanagar Police had registered a case.

Speaking to *SOM* this morning, Santhosh said that he had bought the car in 2018 and his house was just 100 metres from Shivanna's house. "I am happy to know that my SUV has been recovered and I visited the V.V. Puram Police to see my vehicle as I was informed by the Police," he said.

GPS technology came in handy

The thief quickly sold the stolen cars to his prospective buyers and he had a wide network of clients in Gujarat, Mumbai, Delhi and Kolkata. In these three cases, two cars were recovered from the buyers outside Karnataka. In fact, the Police teams were behind the culprit for over two months but the criminal managed to give a slip to the Police. However, the GPS-enabled vehicle helped the Police to make the arrest.

Police sources said that after committing a crime, the accused used to vanish, leaving no trace. His *modus operandi* will even put a techie to shame. He is very proficient and adept in stealing, the Police added.

The investigation teams were headed by Vijayanagar Police Inspector Ravishankar, V.V. Puram inspector Mohan under the guidance of Narasimharaja Sub-division ACP C.K. Ashwathnarayan and Vijayanagar Sub-division ACP Gajendra Prasad.

Vehicle brought back from Gujarat

In another case, a Toyota Innova vehicle that was stolen in the city on the night of May 12 was brought back from Gujarat and has been handed over to the owners.

The vehicle (KA-09-MC-5199) belongs to Nikhil Manjunath, son of retired Nirmithi Kendra Director Manjunath, a resident of Nivedithanagar. The vehicle was parked in front of the house on May 12 night and was missing the next day morning.

The team led by Saraswathipuram Police Inspector C.M. Ravindra traced the vehicle in Gujarat. The vehicle was hidden inside a godown in a deserted place. The Saraswathipuram Police went to Vapi Police Station near Surat in Gujarat and recovered the vehicle.

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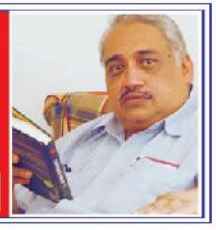
Over a cup of evening Tea

By Dr. K. Javeed Nayeem, MD



A Whiff of Happiness, late at Night!

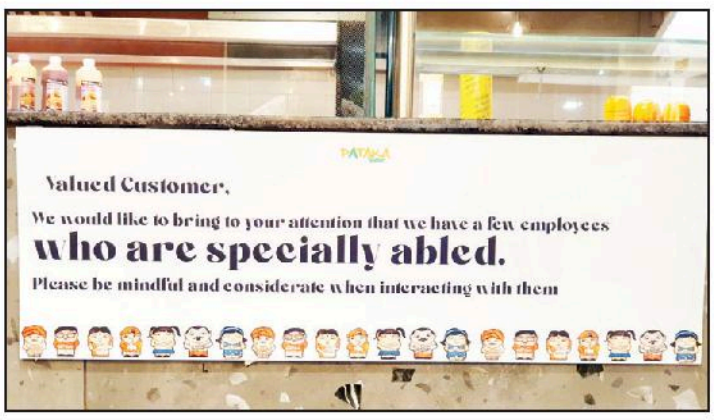
Just a few days ago my family and I, as we often do, decided to go out for a late-night round of chats. This time we had with us a couple of in-house guests and we decided to take them to the newly opened, Nazarbad outlet of *Pataka,* a now well-known line of chat shops, owned by the **Mannars Family** in our city. Actually, **Sampath,** the progenitor of this business chain, was my classmate at the St. Philomena's High School in the late sixties and very unfortunately, he died very young, in the year 1997.

As usual, the fare there at *Pataka* was up to our expectations, and our guests and we felt happy with our choice. But despite having enjoyed the snacks served there, I could not help feeling that the service could have been a little bit better than what it was.

Yes, cheerful and quick service, with personal attention to our preferences, is something I give priority to, over just good taste and ambience, whenever I go to a restaurant and I generally avoid revisiting a place where I find them missing. Yes, you can go ahead and call it one of my odd quirks and I do not mind it one bit because we all have our oddities, of one kind or the other!

We were the very last customers of the day and as we got up from our table to leave the place, I remarked to my daughter, Sarah, that while the fare was good, the waiters who served us and the two boys in particular, who prepared our chats, could have been a little more responsive and sharper in understanding our preferences. We both brushed it off as being due to their being new to their jobs, with the outlet itself being new and proceeded to leave the place, as the staff started switching of the lights.

That is when my daughter drew my attention to a signboard that was displayed right above the service counter. It said: **"Valued customers, we would like to bring to your attention that we have a few employees who are specially-abled. Please be mindful and considerate when interacting with them."** That is when the realisation dawned on me why I had found the response from the staff there a little sluggish or even inattentive. **It was not they but I, who should have been a little more attentive and considerate in dealing with them and having appropriately reasonable expectations from them!**


PATAKA
Valued Customer,
We would like to bring to your attention that we have a few employees
who are specially abled.
Please be mindful and considerate when interacting with them

The signboard at Pataka.

I was suddenly overcome by a sense of deep remorse at my rather hasty conclusions, even as I was overwhelmed by a sense of great elation at what I was seeing there. I immediately felt that the service there was exemplary and I requested the manager to switch on the lights once again, so that I could photograph the signboard for this article!

What a shame it was, that more and more of our business establishments did not have the kind of foresight and kindness, the management of ***Pataka*** had, in providing a dignified livelihood, even to persons with disabilities. Although I know of many large industrial establishments which reserve a few jobs for specially-abled persons, sometimes voluntarily and sometimes because it is mandated by law, it is not a common practice in smaller outfits.

It is in fact, a very small thing we can all pay attention to, as we go about our lives, without putting ourselves to any inconvenience at all. If every one of us make it a policy to do this and employ a couple of such persons, in all our business ventures, big or small, it will make a big difference to how meaningful our lives can be and how beautiful this world can become! **Well done, *Pataka,* you have indeed set off a huge firecracker. Hats off to you!**

The Sixth Bhagya!

Over the past two months, we have all been seeing a great deal of hype and euphoria over the **Five Bhagyas** that our State Government is in the process of doling out to a section of the voters who helped it to occupy the corridors of power in the Vidhana Soudha. Hype, among the givers and euphoria, among the receivers!

It is a different matter that the Government, after very optimistically dangling the carrot, is now finding it difficult to fulfill some of the promises it has made, especially in the matter of finding enough rice to distribute to the poor families, at the rather over-generous quantum of ten kilograms, per person, per month. Although it has to get its hands on only half this quantity, because the other half is something that the previous State Government, with its patronage from the Centre, has already been dishing out, the going has not been very easy.

This is because the Centre, that is driven by a different political ideology, has announced that its warehouses simply do not have enough rice to fulfill the demands made on them by our State Government, for its free-rice welfare scheme. Whether this is true or not, it has very expectedly and effectively thrown a spanner in the works, to stall the progress of a locomotive that is now being driven by its rivals! There's nothing surprising in this because that is how things are in politics. When I do something, it is very good and when you do the very same thing it is very bad!

Now, coming back to the empty rice bag, with the State Government now finding no rice of its own, to meet the expectations of the beneficiaries, has announced that it is undeterred and it will hand out the cost of the rice in cash, to them. **This is what makes this decision under duress, the sixth and biggest 'Bhagya' that comes as an unexpected but very welcome bonus for casting their votes right.**

To tell you why it is so, I have to tell you what my housemaid told me, with great elation very recently. She said that she was hoping to sell away the additional five kilos of inferior quality free rice for rupees fifteen a kilo as she was doing with the five kilos she was getting for every member of her five member household. That would have fetched her rupees seven hundred and fifty a month with which she could buy enough good quality rice for her family's consumption.

Yes, rupees fifteen a kilo is the going price for Government rice in the black-market, where it is resold for thirty-five rupees a kilo, to almost all the hotels and eateries, for making their idli and dosa batter. **Now, the sardonic joke is that these include even the best hotels, where our Government Officers, leaders and our Ministers too, regularly eat!**

Now, with the Government giving her cash, at the rate of rupees thirty-five a kilo, instead of humble rice, which she simply refuses to eat, my maid and her ilk will stand to earn a full Rs. 1,750 a month. **Now, where is Rs. 750 and where is Rs. 1,750, and why would anyone not welcome such a beautiful and bountiful scheme, as the Sixth Bhagya? Do think about it!**

e-mail:
kjnmysore@rediffmail.com

Pratibha Puraskar

Mysuru, July 30- **J.P. Nagar Sharana Vedike** has invited applications from children of Vedike members who have scored more than 90 percent marks in SSLC, PUC (2022-23), for presentation of Pratibha Puraskar. For details, call Mob: 96204 78888.

Hebbal-Vijayanagar Brahmin Association has invited applications from children of Association members, who have scored more than 85 percent marks in SSLC, PUC (2022-23), for Pratibha Puraskar. The last date for applying is Aug. 15. For details, call Mob: 92435-29365 or 98867-13359.

The Mysuru-Chamarajanagar District Arya Idigara Sangha too has invited applications from eligible meritorious children of the members of the Mysuru-Chamarajanagar District Arya Idigara Sangha, Arya Idiga Employees Association, and Arya Idiga Mahila Sangha, who have scored more than 80 percent marks in the SSLC and PUC exams.

Eligible students may obtain the applications at the Sangha Office in Krishnamurthypuram and submit the filled-in forms along with copies of the related marks cards and two passport-size photos before Aug. 15. For details, call Mob: 93419-16963 or 85531-29129, according to a press release.

Mass Marriage on Aug. 30

Mysuru, July 30 (SSM)- Veerashaiva Sneha Balaga, Kuvempunagar, Mysuru, will be holding a free mass marriage for five couples at the inaugural programme of the newly constructed Shiva Bhavan at the Shiva Temple premises in SBM Layout of Srirampura 2nd Stage here on Aug. 30.

Suttur Mutt Seer Sri Shivarathri Deshikendra Swamiji and Sri Haraguru Charamurthy Swamiji will bless the couples.

The bridegroom should have completed 21 years, and the bride should be 18 years old. The bride and groom's photographs must be affixed to the application form.

Caste and age certificates must be obtained from the schools and attached along with the application form. Child marriages are strictly prohibited.

Those interested may contact the Veerashaiva Sneha Balaga President at the Balaga Office in the Temple premises directly eight days before the wedding.

For details and registration, call Mob: 99005-56394 or 97411-17631, according to a press release.

Problems of Music Varsity not music to ears

Lack of professional commitment from Government defeating the purpose of University establishment in Mysuru

By Bapu Lingaraj Urs

Mysuru, July 30 - The Karnataka State Gangubai Hangal (KSGH) Music and Performing Arts University, established in Mysuru with the noble purpose of promoting music and arts, is currently facing a disheartening state of affairs.

Dr. Gangubai

The University, named after the renowned music legend Dr. Gangubai Hangal, was inaugurated on Feb. 14, 2008, to preserve and propagate the rich heritage of Indian music and performing arts. Nestled in the culturally significant city of Mysuru, the Government took inspiration from Chattisgarh's Indira Gandhi Arts University and set up the Music Varsity on JLB Road in Lakshmipuram.

The University is solely dedicated to the study and research of music and performing arts. In fact, it holds the distinction of being only the second University of its kind in the entire country and the sole one in South India.

Housed within an awe-inspiring century-old heritage structure, the University's grand setting reflects the deep-rooted traditions it seeks to preserve. However, the deterioration of both the heritage building and the University's functioning due to financial constraints has become a cause of great concern.

Lack of research initiatives

One of the primary concerns is the apparent lack of research initiatives over the past 15 years, despite the Varsity's establishment. This deficiency is disheartening, as research forms the backbone of academic growth and is essential for the evolution and enrichment of musical and performing arts disciplines.

Moreover, the University faces a significant shortfall in faculty members, and it lacks a designated professor to guide and mentor research students. The reliance on 22 guest lecturers to fill the gaps exacerbates the problem, particularly when these lecturers have not received their salaries for the past 18 months. Such financial difficulties contribute to an unfavourable atmosphere for both students and faculty alike.

The condition of the non-teaching staff is equally distressing. The University can only boast a handful of regular employees, primarily comprising the Vice-Chancellor, Registrar and Deputy Registrar.

Inadequate staff strength

This inadequate staff strength hampers the smooth functioning and administration of the University, hindering its potential for growth and development.

While the University manages to produce a modest number of 130 graduates each year, the potential for attracting more students remains untapped due to the poor infrastructure and an unsupportive learning environment. It is particularly disheartening that even in the face of the National Education Policy-2020, which made Music a compulsory subject in schools and colleges, the Varsity struggles to attract aspiring musicians and performers.

Severe fund crunch

A major challenge lies in the financial constraints imposed on the University. The meagre annual allocation of Rs. 1.5 crore from the Government falls significantly short of supporting the various expenses, including utility charges and operational costs. This inadequate financial backing leaves the University struggling to meet even the minimum requirements for a thriving academic institution.

Despite numerous representations made by the University authorities to the Government and the Governor-Chancellor, who oversees all State-run Universities, little progress has been made in securing additional funds and addressing the infrastructural needs.

To elevate the Music University to its rightful position as an Institution of national importance for music and arts studies and research, the Government must recognise the pressing issues and take immediate measures to allocate sufficient funds.

Only then can the University thrive, attract more students, foster research, and continue its mission of preserving and propagating the invaluable cultural heritage of Indian music and performing arts.

No salaries for guest lecturers for over a year-and-a-half

The Music University's Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Nagesh V. Bettakote, expresses grave concerns over the dire financial situation. Despite frequent communications with the Government and the Higher Education Minister, little relief has been granted, leaving the University in a state of despair.

Prof. Nagesh

Furthermore, the non-payment of salaries to guest lecturers for over a year and a half is a severe blow to both their financial stability and the University's reputation. Such a scenario raises questions about the institution's ability to retain competent and motivated faculty members.

University Registrar, Prof. T.S. Devaraj, emphasises that without adequate Government support, maintaining the quality of education becomes an uphill battle. With limited internal resources, the University's growth and development suffer immensely.

Scrapping NEP-2020 in Karnataka

Congress elicits opinions for a 'fair and just' policy

Bengaluru, July 30 (KMS& BCT)- Certain Congress-leaning academicians have advised the State Government to incorporate elements from the National Education Policy-2020 (NEP-2020) while formulating a State Education Policy (SEP).

During an education convention organised by the All India Save Education Committee (AISEC) in Bengaluru on Friday, experts expressed their support for certain aspects of NEP, such as the provision for multiple entry and exit options and the emphasis on critical thinking.

The Congress Government intends to introduce an alternative State policy in line with its manifesto and experts stressed the importance of developing a more inclusive, accessible and constitution-based policy. Interestingly, the overall message of the conference was that textbooks should not become political tools and should be medium of dispersing real knowledge.

Dr. M.C. Sudhakar, the Higher Education Minister, acknowledged both the positives and negatives of NEP. He emphasised the need to avoid hastily withdrawing NEP without thorough discussion, debate and consideration of all aspects of the proposed SEP.

He criticised the BJP for implementing NEP without accounting for the challenges faced by the Education Department and the lack of necessary infrastructure to support all of NEP's provisions. Dr. Sudhakar also pointed out that NEP overlooked the needs of marginalised children from Scheduled Caste and minority communities.

Furthermore, Dr. Sudhakar advocated transforming Anganwadis into pre-schools and enhancing the overall quality and accessibility of the State's education system. Former UGC Chairman Prof. Sukhdeo Thorat raised concerns about making multidisciplinary courses mandatory and advised that value education should be derived more from the Constitution rather than religion, as proposed in National Education Policy-2020 (NEP).

'Sanskritisation' of education

Prof. Thorat cautioned against what he called 'Sanskritisation' of education and the implementation of four-year degrees due to potential unequal access. While he appreciated the idea of multiple entry and exit options, Prof. Thorat expressed concerns that one-year diplomas might lead to increased dropout rates instead of promoting pass/fail rates.

Other suggestions from experts included the establishment of an expert body for policy implementation, promoting English education, cautiously allowing foreign Universities and creating a secular, scientific and socially inclusive policy. Experts also recommended delaying early vocational training until after Class 12 to ensure access to higher education.

Madhu Bangarappa's pledge

Primary and Secondary Education Minister Madhu Bangarappa deemed the policy a threat to the equality and quality of education. He pledged to formulate a 'fair and just' education policy, seeking recommendations and guidance from progressive education experts.

Social Welfare Minister Dr. H.C. Mahadevappa criticised the BJP Government for implementing NEP-2020 without engaging in discourse, considering expert recommendations or subjecting the policy to democratic Parliamentary processes. He emphasised the need for a progressive and scientific education policy that fosters good character and strong personalities in students.

Francis Assisi Almeida, Secretary of Karnataka Regional Commission for Education, appreciated the focus on critical thinking in NEP and recommended retaining it in the SEP. He expressed concerns that the entire policy seemed geared towards privatisation and stressed the importance of ensuring equal education opportunities in the SEP, es-pecially in subjects like history without distortion of facts.

Michael Williams, Secretary of Mount Carmel Schools, New Delhi, advised the State Government to design a policy that ensures education for all and helps students achieve proficiency in English. He urged the Government to ensure that no student is left behind and to incorporate English education in all Government-run schools.

New team of Mysore Elite Round Table-256

*A group photo of the new office-bearers of Mysore Elite Round Table-256 for the year 2023-24. Seen are (from left) **LMF. Tr. Pavan Bargi (Past Chairman), LMF. Tr. Sunil Kumar (Vice-Chairman), LMF. Tr. Jai Prakash Chopra (Chairman), GLMF. Tr. Ram Hebbale (Area Chairman), LMF. Tr. Shiva Swaroop Urs (Secretary) and LMF. Tr. Rahul Jain (Treasurer).***

Elected to Suvarna Karnataka Kerala Samajam

The General Body Meeting of Suvarna Karnataka Kerala Samajam, Mysore District, was held on July 23 at Hotel President and Dr. Manu B. Menon was elected as Mysore District President for 2023-2026 along with George Kumar and Anirudhan as Vice-Presidents, P.V. George - General Secretary, P.P. Baburaj and C.M. Thomas - Joint Secretaries, Shijukrishnan - Treasurer and 8 more Executive Members. Outgoing President Dr. Anil Thomas was felicitated by State President Chandrasenan and State General Secretary Sasidharan on the occasion.

Mysore Elite Ladies Circle-141 office-bearers

*A group photo of new office-bearers of Mysore Elite Ladies Circle-141 for the year 2023-24. Sitting from left: **Cr. Shruthi Shroff (Past Chairperson), Cr. Sapna Kushal (Secretary), Cr. Garima Chopra (Chairperson), Cr. Nandita (Area Chairperson), Cr. Namrata Shenoy (Past Asia-Pacific President, Past National President, Ladies Circle) and Cr. Saviniya Swaroop (Treasurer) with other Circlers.***

Inner Wheel Club of Mysore North

*The introduction and installation of new team of Inner Wheel Club of Mysore North was held at Inner Wheel Rotary Bhavana, Sneha Sindhu Trust in Vijayanagar, Mysuru, recently. Picture shows the new members installed for the year 2023-24 (from right) **Web Co-ordinator - Sharanya Chouta, Editor - Geetha Prasad, I.S.O. - Padma Niranjan, Treasurer - Sumana Natesh, Secretary - Prema Swamy, President - Ashwini Prashanth, Installing Officer - PDC Jannavi Murthy, I.P.P. - Rajani Swamy, PDC - Rajeshwari Gowda, Vice-President - Vimala Murthy and EC Members - Nandini Prabhudev, G.P. Pushpalatha and Neelambikadevi Nagaraj.***

'Purpose of education should not be only for employment'

Prof. P. Nagabhushan at UoM Foundation Day

Mysuru, July 30 (BLU&DM)- Prof. P. Nagabhushan, Vice-Chancellor of Vignan University, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh, observed that the purpose of education should not only be for getting jobs, but also for acquiring useful knowledge.

He was speaking after inaugurating the University of Mysore (UoM) Foundation Day celebration at Crawford Hall here on Thursday.

Stating that at present, education means only to get degrees, jobs and earn money, Prof. Nagabhushan maintained that in the race for earning money, students seem to have lost the quest for knowledge. Regretting that Colleges too are focusing much on Placement Cells these days, he argued that the country needs a knowledge and morality-based education rather than economics-centric education.

Though employment is a need for livelihood, teachers and parents should not develop a mindset among students that getting education is only for finding a job. At the same time, parents should not force their interests on their wards, he said adding that it is important for parents and teachers to understand what the interest of the student is and allow them to excel in the subject or field of their choice.

Continuing, he said that the current exam system has many lapses. Noting that a student's intelligence and talent should not be measured only by exam, he opined that exam system should be simpler.

Pointing out that under the National Education Policy (NEP), the Government has allowed autonomy for Universities, he called upon those in high positions to make best use of it.

UoM Registrar V.R. Shylaja said currently the UoM has 85 Graduate and more than 180 Post-Graduate courses. Stating that the University is ranked 45th in the country in NIRF ranking, she said that the University is giving prominence to Research Studies with the establishment of more than 15 Study Chairs.

UoM Registrar (Evaluation) Prof. K.M. Mahadevan, Finance Officer Sangeetha Gajanan Bhat and others were present.

Perhaps for the first time, the Foundation Day celebration was held in the absence of a regular or acting University Vice-Chancellor. The appointment of Prof. N.K. Loknath as the VC is now in the High Court, which has granted a stay to his appointment. The Government has not appointed an acting VC either.

Conference on 'Prevention of Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace'

Mysuru, July 30- Mysore HR Forum, Mysuru and GSSS Institute of Engineering & Technology for Women, Mysuru, in association with KATKHI Industrial Association, Nanjangud and Karnataka TPO Forum, Mysuru, have organised a one-day conference on "Prevention of Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (POSH)" Aug. 17 at 9 am at M. Govinda Rao Memorial Hall of GSSSIETW Institute, Metagalli, Mysuru.

The Conference will feature an Interactive Session on POSH Act requirements and responsibilities of the Employer; Workshop on how to conduct a Domestic Enquiry under POSH Act and a Panel Discussion on "POSH - Social Responsibilities & Challenges." Vasantkumar N. Hittanagi, Retd. Joint Labour Commissioner, Government of Karnataka, will be the Resource Expert.

Entrepreneurs, business heads, CEOs, operation heads, HR & IR managers, POSH/ ICC Chairperson & members, welfare officers, administrative officers, advocates, legal advisors, POSH consultants/ trainers, management and students may attend. Interested can send their nominations to *_mysorehrs@gmail.com*. For further updates on POSH Conference, click below link: *https://chat.whatsapp.com/DcWiNrzjpT-1FjmBQH62U2V*

For more details, call Mob: 70220-36998.

MOVIE LOVERS

NOW SHOWING - SINGLE SCREEN THEATRES

- **Balaji Theatre** — Ph: 2497199
  Rocky Aur Rani Ki Prem Kahani (H) - 4 Shows
- **Thibbadevi Theatre** — Ph: 2452958
  Rocky Aur Rani Ki Prem Kahani (H) - 4 Shows
- **Sangam Theatre** — Ph: 2520494
  Hostel Hudugaru Bekagiddare (K) - 4 Shows
- **Gayathri Theatre** — Ph: 2443568
  Hostel Hudugaru Bekagiddare (K) - 4 Shows
- **Woodlands Theatre** — Ph: 2422871
  Aachar & Co (K) - 4 Shows
- **Lido Theatre** — Ph: 2420885
  Kousalya Supraja Rama (K) - 4 Shows
- **Prabha Theatre** — Mob: 98454-14691
  Don Kumara (K) - 4 Shows
- **Mahadeshwara Theatre** — Mob: 99008-20093
  Hidimba (Te) - 4 Shows
- **Rajkamal Theatre** — Ph: 2423554
  Bro (Te) - 4 Shows
- **Padma Theatre** — Ph: 2521923
  Bro (Te) - 4 Shows

DRC CINEMAS — Ph: 4240422, 4241800

Oppenheimer (E)	(S-1)	9.45 am, 1.20 pm
Achar & Co (K)	(S-1)	4.50 pm
Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Kahaani (H)	(S-1)	7 pm, 10.15 pm
	(S-3)	10.05 am; (S-4) 4.05 pm
Haunted Mansion (E)	(S-2)	10.55 am, 10 pm
Barbie (E)	(S-2)	1.25 pm
Kousalya Supraja Rama (K)	(S-2)	4.05 pm, 7 pm
Hostel Hudugaru Bekagiddare (K)	(S-3)	1.15 pm, 7.20 pm, 10.05 pm
	(S-4)	10.15 am
Baby (Te)	(S-3)	4 pm
LGM - Lets Get Married (Ta)	(S-4)	1.10 pm
Bro (Te)	(S-4)	7.20 pm, 10 pm

MYSURU VISION CINEMAS — Ph: 0821 - 2973519

Hostel Hudugaru Bekagiddare (K)	:	10.30 am, 1.30 pm, 4.30 pm 7.30 pm, 9.15 pm
Kousalya Supraja Rama (K)	:	10.30 am, 1.35 pm, 4.20 pm
Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Kahaani (H)	:	10.30 am, 1.15 pm 6.05 pm, 9.15 pm
Diamond Cross (K)	:	11.00 am
DD Returns (Te)	:	1.35 pm
LGM - Let's Get Married (Ta)	:	4 pm, 9.30 pm
Voice of Sathyanathan (Ma)	:	6.55 pm

PVR CINEMAS — 4K Dolby 7.1

Nexus Centre City Mall, 2nd Floor. Mob: 8951357139

Oppenheimer (E)	:	8 am, 11.50 am, 4.15 pm 6.25 pm, 10.20 pm
Hostel Hudugaru Bekagiddare (K)	:	8.30 am, 9.25 am, 12.35 pm 3.40 pm, 6.45 pm 7.10 pm, 9.50 pm
Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Kahaani (H)	:	8.30 am, 12 noon, 3.30 pm 7.00 pm, 10.30 pm
Bro (Te)	:	9.55 am, 4.15 pm, 10.15 pm
Aura (K)	:	10.40 am
Trailers Screening Show	:	11.35 am
Kousalya Supraja Rama (K)	:	12.20 pm, 6.40 pm, 9.45 pm
Mission Impossible: Dead Reckoning (E)	:	12.50 pm
Haunted Mansion (E)	:	1.30 pm, 10.30 pm
LGM - Let's Get Married (Ta)	:	3.25 pm
Barbie (E)	:	3.45 pm
Aachar & Co (K)	:	8.05 pm

1st Floor, Garuda Mall. Mob: 9901373210

Hostel Hudugaru Bekagiddare (K)	:	8.35 am, 12.55 pm, 4 pm 7.05 pm, 10.10 pm
Oppenheimer (E)	:	9 am, 11.40 am, 6.30 pm, 10.20 pm
Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Kahaani (H)	:	9.10 am, 3.30 pm 7 pm, 10 pm
Bro (Te)	:	10 am, 7.05 pm
Baby 2023 (Te)	:	12.45 pm
Barbie (E)	:	12.50 pm
Kousalya Supraja Rama (K)	:	3.25 pm, 10.30 pm
Diamond Cross (K)	:	4.20 pm

Selection Trials for State-level Cycling Championship

Mysuru, July 30- Mysuru District Cycling Association is inviting all the Mysuru district cyclists for the Selections Trials for upcoming State-level Cycling Championship.

The Selection Trials will be held on Aug. 5 at 6.30 am (Mountain Biking Selection) near Planet Earth Aquarium, Hebbal Industrial Area, Kuppedada, Mysuru.

The Selection Trials will be held in the following age categories: • Under-14 (Boys & Girls); • U-16 (Boys & Girls); • U-18 (Boys & Girls); • U-23 Men; • Elite Men; • Women.

Each category Top 4 cyclist will qualify for State-level Championship and will be representing Mysuru district.

Participants must attend the Selection Trials with their own geared cycles and helmets. Last date to register is Aug. 4.

For registration and details, contact coach Fariyal Jamadar on Mob: 88848-51538 or Mysuru District Amateur Cycling Association (MDACA) Secretary N. Lokesh on Mob: 99869-73280, according to a press release.

EVENTS TODAY (JULY 30)

- **Abhivrudhi:** Silk India-2023, expo-cum-sale of pure silk products, Nanjaraja Bahadur Choultry, Vinoba Road, **up to 8.30 pm.**
- **Fasshion Storei, Bengaluru:** Indian Lifestyle and Jewellery Exhibition, Hotel Rio Meridian, Sayyaji Rao Road, **up to 8.30 pm.**
- **Sahara Art and Crafts:** Shopping Festival — Handicraft and Handloom expo-cum-sale — Scouts and Guides Grounds, behind DC's Office, **up to 9.30 pm.**
- **Srikrishna Trust Chaturmasya Samiti:** Pejawar Adhokshaja Mutt Seer Sri Vishwaprasanna Teertha Swamiji's 36th Chaturmasya Vrata, Bhajans, Bhagavata discourse, Ramayana discourse and cultural programmes, Srikrishnadhama, Saraswathipuram, **5 pm to 8 pm.** [Mob: 94482-71837 or 99452-30501]
- **Sri Sosale Vyasaraja Mutt, Krishnamurthypuram:** 'Sampoorna Ramayana Pravachana Yajna' as part of Adhika Masa, discourse on 'Ayodhyakanda' by Vid. Srikantacharya Kalasapura, Mutt premises, Krishnamurthypuram, **6 pm to 7 pm.**
- **Sri Nadabrahma Sangeetha Sabha:** Smt. Kamalamma & A. Shankar Chetty Memorial Concert sponsored by A. Shankar Chetty & Sons, Mysuru, grand Bharatanatyam recital by Vidu. Deepti Radhakrishna from Bengaluru, Sabha premises, JLB Road, **6 pm.**
- **Sri Ramakrishna Ashram, Mysuru:** Swami Aghaharanandaji speaks on 'Sodara Sanyasigalondige Swami Vivekanandaru,' Ashram premises, Yadavagiri, **6 pm.**
- **Rangayana:** Staging of play 'Kaniveya Haadu' by Natana School of Theatre Arts, Mysuru, directed by Dr. Sripada Bhat, Bhoomigeeta, Rangayana premises, **6.30 pm.**
- **GPIER theatre troupe, Mysuru:** Staging of play 'All right - Mantra Mangalya,' written by Ganesh Amingad, directed by Mime Ramesh, music by Jagadish R. Jaani (NSD), Mini Theatre, Kalamandira premises, **7 pm.**
- **Ashtangayoga Vijnana Mandiram:** Discourse on 'Guru Acharya' by R.K. Ramamohan, Professor, Nanjangud, Mandira premises, No. 957, Seshadri Iyer Road, Lakshmipuram, **7 pm.**

EVENTS TOMORROW (JULY 31)

- **Abhivrudhi:** Silk India-2023, expo-cum-sale of pure silk products, Nanjaraja Bahadur Choultry, Vinoba Road, **10.30 am to 8.30 pm.**
- **Sahara Art and Crafts:** Shopping Festival — Handicraft and Handloom expo-cum-sale — Scouts and Guides Grounds, behind DC's Office, **10.30 am to 9.30 pm.**
- **People For Animals (PFA):** Inauguration of the enclosure for dogs with disabilities sponsored by Dr. D.L. Madhavi, Trishikha Kumari Wadiyar of Mysore Royal Family guest of honour, PFA premises, Survey No. 280, near Roopa Nagar, Bogadi Village, **11 am.**
- **Srikrishna Trust Chaturmasya Samiti:** Pejawar Adhokshaja Mutt Seer Sri Vishwaprasanna Teertha Swamiji's 36th Chaturmasya Vrata, Bhajans, Bhagavata discourse, Ramayana discourse and cultural programmes, Srikrishnadhama, Saraswathipuram, **5 pm to 8 pm.** [Mob: 94482-71837 or 99452-30501]
- **Sri Sosale Vyasaraja Mutt, Krishnamurthypuram:** 'Sampoorna Ramayana Pravachana Yajna' as part of Adhika Masa, discourse on 'Ayodhyakanda' by Vid. Srikantacharya Kalasapura, Mutt premises, Krishnamurthypuram, **6 pm to 7 pm.**

INOX — LIVE the MOVIE

Mall of Mysore - Mob. : 7829999465

Hostel Hudugaru Bekagiddare (K)	(S-1)	9.50 am, 4 pm, 10.10 pm
Kousalya Supraja Rama (K)	(S-1)	12.55 pm, 7.05 pm
Oppenheimer (E)	(S-2)	9.40 am 4.05 pm, 10.20 pm
Barbie (E)	(S-2)	1.30 pm
Aachar & Co (K)	(S-2)	7.55 pm; (S-3) 10.20 am
Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Kahaani (H)	(S-4)	9.25 am, 1.00 pm
	(S-3)	6.25 pm, 10.00 pm
Bro (Te)	(S-3)	3.30 pm
	(S-4)	4.30 pm, 7.35 pm
DD Returns (Ta)	(S-3)	12.45 pm
Baby (Te)	(s-4)	10.30 pm

INOX Centro Mysore - Mob. : 9606976757

Oppenheimer (E)	(S-1)	9.15 am
	(S-2)	2.00 pm, 6.35 pm
Hostel Hudugaru Bekagiddare (K)	(S-3)	9.00 am
	(S-1)	1.05pm,7.15,10.20pm
Diamond Cross (K)	(S-4)	4.00 pm
Kousalya Supraja Rama (K)	(S-4)	10.20 pm
	(S-2)	4.10 pm
Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Kahaani (H)	(S-2)	10.25 pm, 10.30 pm
	(S-3)	3.00 pm, 6.35 pm
Trailers Screening Show	(S-2)	5.55 pm
Love (Ta)	(S-4)	1.25 pm
LGM - Let's Get Married (Ta)	(S-4)	6.45 pm
Bro (Te)	(S-3)	12.05 pm, 10.10 pm
Voice of Sathyanadhan (Ma)	(S-2)	10.20 pm

NOTE: Movie timings published here are subject to sudden change by the theatre managements. The films are also liable to be changed in multiplexes if there are no minimum audience of 15.

Calling building owners

Mysuru, July 30 (SSM)- The Minority Welfare Department has invited proposals from private building owners for letting out their buildings on rental basis for running Deen Dayal Boys Hostel in Mysuru district.

The building should accommodate at least 100 students, should have all civic amenities, good ventilation and other infrastructure. The hostel building must have 30 rooms.

Interested building owners may contact Ph: 0821-2422088 or 2422078 or e-mail: ***gokdom.dommysuru@gmail.com*** or visit the Department Office in Moulana Azad Bhavan in city, according to a press release.

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6th DEATH ANNIVERSARY

Kempanke Gowda
Retd., Asst. Agricultural Director, University of Mysore
DOB:7.4.1952 DOD: 30.7.2017
We can't see and hear you but we can feel you because you have a place in our heart and mind. Rest peacefully in heaven
It has been 6 years since you left us. May God rest your soul in eternal peace
From: Wife-Jayavani.S
Sons: Harsha C.K., Hemanth C.K
Daughters in law: Sweekratha, Vidya Rani, grandchildren: Druvi, Kashvi & Jiyan and family members

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